

State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

DATE: August 31, 2021

TO: COVID-19 and Vaccines For Children Providers

FROM: Adrienne M. Whitney, MPH

Vaccines Procurement and Distribution Manager

Please route to:

- Clinical supervisor
- Medical director
- Clinic manager
- Clinic staff
- Pharmacy staff
- Vaccine staff

SUBJECT: Post-Storm Vaccine Wastage and New Vaccine Orders

Post-Storm Vaccine Wastage

If you have lost/wasted vaccine (COVID-19 or VFC) due to Hurricane Ida, please fill out the <u>vaccine loss report</u> and send to you Regional Immunization Consultant by email. Regional Consultant contact information (including email) is located on the bottom of the <u>LINKS</u> homepage.

Please discard of all lost/wasted vaccines in the same manner you do your other biologicals.

New Vaccine Orders

Any direct ship orders (Moderna and Pfizer) placed by the Immunization Program Wednesday, August 25th, through Friday, August 27th, have been placed on a temporary shipment hold statewide, due to the impact of Hurricane Ida. At this time, it is unknown when shipping of these direct ship orders will resume by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Due to this hold on direct order shipments, beginning on Monday, August 30, <u>all</u> new vaccine orders placed will be filled with existing vaccine doses already stored at Morris & Dickson (M & D). M & D will contact providers before delivery to ensure they have power and proper storage plans/equipment. Please ensure your primary vaccine coordinators at your site check their emails often to retrieve these pre-delivery messages sent from M & D.

With the vaccine distribution interruptions caused by the storm, the Immunization Program needs to extend estimated delivery timeframes for vaccines. Providers can now expect vaccine deliveries to possibly extend past five days from the time they were ordered in LINKS (previous timeframe for delivery had been 3-5 days throughout the vaccination response).